

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 28, 2004. Claims 1 to 28 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 8, 13, 20 and 28 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph based on an alleged failure to comply with the enablement requirement. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, it is alleged that it is clear “originals contain print data” but unclear “how the read originals could be arranged at ‘positions of the print data’.” Applicant takes this opportunity to correct this misunderstanding of the relationship between image originals and print data. Image originals do not “contain print data.” Instead, the image originals are placed into the print data in an arranging process in accordance with designation information. The designation information specifies at which predetermined position within the print data the image originals are to be placed. Accordingly, once the arranging process is complete, a plurality of image originals are arranged at different predetermined positions within the print data.

The Office Action further alleges, that it is unclear how the arranging is carried out. The Examiner’s attention is respectfully directed to FIG. 16 to FIG. 19 and their related descriptions in the specification starting at Page 27, Line 32 and extending to Page 36, Line 18. FIG. 16 calls for placing image originals at three different predetermined positions within the print data. Specifically, the predetermined positions are “FRONT COVER INSERT” called for at step (34), “FRONT/BACK COVER INSERT” called for at

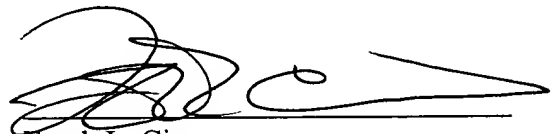
step (33) and "FRONT/BACK COVER INSERT & MIDDLE OVERLAY" called for at step (35). The process for step (34) is illustrated in FIG. 17, the process for step (33) is shown in FIG. 18, and the process for step (35) is shown in FIG. 19.

Claims 1 to 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly being indefinite. The claims have been amended to clarify that "print data" of the preamble of the claims is "the print data" referenced in the body of the claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the this rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and no other matters being raised in the Office Action, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank L. Cire", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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